

Please replace the following paragraph with the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

AB At the time of coating on the skin layer formed on the release paper, it is necessary to adjust the viscosity of the aqueous dry laminate adhesive composition in accordance with the coating method thereof, and the adjustment is executed by the use of a thickener (C). Any type of conventionally known thickener (C) can be used if it is compatible with the water-borne polyurethane resin (A). Examples of the thickener (C) include cellulose derivatives such as HEC (Hydroxyethylcellulose), MC (Methylcellulose), and CMC (Carboxymethylcellulose); polyacrylate salt, PVP (polyvinylpyrrolidone), and thickeners in the system of associative polymer-type surface active agents such as urethane or polyether systems.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1-5 as follows:

- Sub B17
- AB
1. (Amended) An aqueous dry laminate adhesive composition for artificial leather comprising:
- a water-borne polyurethane resin (A), a crosslinking agent (B), and a thickener (C),
  - wherein said water-borne polyurethane resin (A) has a softening temperature of less than 80°C and a viscosity of the melt at 80 °C of less than  $10^5$  Pa ·s, and
  - wherein a softening temperature of a cured product obtained after curing a reaction product between said water-borne polyurethane resin (A) and the crosslinking agent (B) is higher than 120°C.

2. (Amended) An aqueous dry laminate adhesive composition for artificial leather according to claim 1, wherein said water-borne polyurethane resin(A) has a weight-average molecular weight ranging from 2,000 to 200,000 and has at least two active hydrogen atom-containing groups, which are reactive with isocyanate groups.

A3 3. (Amended) An aqueous dry laminated adhesive composition for artificial leather according to claim 1, wherein said crosslinking agent (B) is a polyisocyanate crosslinking agent.

4. (Amended) An aqueous dry laminate adhesive composition for artificial leather according to claim 1, wherein said thickener (C) is an associative polymer surface active agent.

5. (Amended) An aqueous dry laminate adhesive composition for artificial leather according to claim 1, wherein said aqueous dry laminate adhesive composition further comprises aqueous dispersible colorants which are obtained by coating surfaces of pigment particles with an aqueous dispersible resin.